

Today's News - May 24, 2005

L.A.'s Grand Avenue has grand plans (but the devil is in the details). -- Whitney has Plan B to assuage preservationists. -- UNESCO, "guardian of world culture," finally restoring its own HQ. -- It's official: Corcoran expansion plans by Gehry shelved. -- Kamin wastes no ink on Trump; IIT restoration far more significant. -- Kansas City arena value-engineers cut edges and light show (before/after images very telling). -- C2C homes about to spring from the drawing board. -- Dallas discovers bigger isn't always better. -- University of Kansas students put their learning into practice to revitalize a neighborhood. -- A firm that puts its money where its mouth is in encouraging minority architects. -- Nouvel wow's them in Israel (and says he and Koolhaas live on different planets). -- Planners have more power than they think (or should, anyway). -- Millennium Park's Ed Uhlir takes home a prize.

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[If the Vision Is Well Executed, It Could Be Grand: a \[\\$1.8 billion\] master plan for Los Angeles' downtown core earned preliminary approval from the Grand Avenue Authority...God may be in the details...but in developments like this, the devil is too. By Christopher Hawthorne -- Skidmore, Owings & Merrill; Laurie Olin; Brenda Levin; Frank Gehry; Thom Mayne](#)- Los Angeles Times

[Whitney Museum of American Art Wants Plan A, but Says It Has Plan B: ...armed with an alternative design plan that would not involve demolishing a neighboring brownstone. -- Renzo Piano](#)- New York Times

[An act of self-preservation: UNESCO is restoring its crumbling, controversial but pedigreed Modernist headquarters. Yes, it's time for the guardian of world culture to set its own house in order. -- Breuer/Nervi /Zehrfuss \(1958\); Joseph Belmont](#)- Los Angeles Times

[Corcoran Director Quits; Trustees Shelve Gehry Plans](#)- Washington Post

[At IIT's Crown Hall, no detail too small: ...I thought about devoting this column to Donald Trump's ludicrous scheme to more or less rebuild the twin towers at the World Trade Center...Something happened in Chicago last week that eventually will emerge as far more significant than Trump's self-aggrandizing press conference... By Blair Kamin -- Mies van der Rohe; Krueck & Sexton Architects; McClier](#)- Chicago Tribune

[Arena plan evolves: Smoothing out the edges and eliminating the exterior light show will bring the Sprint Center closer to its budget, architects say -- HOK Sport; 360 Architecture; Ellerbe Becket \[images\]](#)- Kansas City Star

[Dirt is green: Processed dirt - "rammed earth" - makes for an environmentally sensitive building material, a C2C \[Cradle to Cradle\] architect says. -- SmithLewis Architecture; William McDonough; Ekaterina Kohlweis](#)- Roanoke Times (Virginia)

[Bucking the Trend in the Land of the Large: In Dallas, where bigger is usually better, developers are selling smaller houses that cost \\$50 per square foot more than the norm. By Fred A. Bernstein -- Patrick Hammers; Clifford Welch; Max Levy](#)- New York Times

[Student project helps revitalize neighborhood: Studio 804/School of Architecture and Urban Design at The University of Kansas, Lawrence...provide an architectural home, at an affordable price... \[image\]](#)- Kansas City Kansan

[Birmingham firm helps blacks become architects -- Wallace A. Rayfield; Giattina Fisher Aycock Architects; National Organization of Minority Architects](#)- The Decatur Daily (Alabama)

[Invisible architecture: Jean Nouvel...came to Israel this week for the Wolf Prize...awarded "for providing a new model of contextualism and redefining the dialectic between...concreteness and ephemerality." By Esther Zandberg](#)- Ha'aretz (Israel)

[Op-Ed: Overcoming the Comfort of Powerlessness: If we as planners don't do better in defining ourselves, we risk being seen as irrelevant and superfluous. Do planners assure their own powerlessness by ignoring those in power? By Leonardo Vazquez, AICP/PP](#)- PLANetizen

[Architect Uhlir on a roll: Paralyzed Veterans of America honor barrier-free design of Millennium fountain](#)- Chicago Tribune

[Exhibition Review: "The 60s: Montréal Thinks Big": The 1960s: just long enough ago to be familiar, yet far enough in the past to look back at this time of radical urban redevelopment with some degree of objectivity. By Terri Whitehead \[images\]](#)- ArchNewsNow

[Build Business: Client Loyalty -- What You Don't Know Could Hurt You. By Stephanie Craft, CPSM](#)

[Under construction: Kazuyo Sejima & Ryue Nishizawa \(SANAA\): The Zollverein School, Essen, Germany](#)

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